



IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (New): A fastener for bags, comprising an engaging piece fixed on a lid portion of a bag and a latch mechanism having a metallic surface and a latch member fixed on a main body portion of the bag and adapted to detachably receive the engaging piece, wherein part of the engaging piece is provided with an engaging ring for receiving the latch member and engages the metallic surface, said engaging ring being clad with a synthetic resin member configured for preventing damage to the metallic surface.

Claim 12 (New): A fastener according to claim 11, wherein the member for preventing damage to the metallic surface comprises a layer of synthetic resin fastened by means of being coated to the surface of the engaging piece.

Claim 13 (New): A fastener according to claim 11, wherein the member configured for preventing damage to the metallic surface comprises a piece of synthetic resin adhered to the surface of the engaging piece.

Claim 14 (New): A fastener as claimed in claim 11; wherein the member configured for preventing damage to the metallic surface comprises a synthetic resin member adhered to the engaging piece.

Claim 15 (New): A fastener according to claim 11, wherein the member configured for preventing damage to the metallic surface comprises a piece of synthetic resin adhered to the engaging piece.

Claim 16 (New): A fastener according to claim 11, wherein the engaging piece has a dovetail groove formed therein and said member configured for preventing damage to the metallic surface comprises a projection provided on a piece of synthetic resin and adapted to engage the dovetail groove and wherein the projection and dovetail groove are joined by insertion-setting.

Claim 17 (New): A fastener according to claim 11, wherein the member configured for preventing damage to the metallic surface comprises screws made of synthetic resin which are screwed into the engaging piece.